

Abstract

5 A method of utilizing timestamps for the global ordering of event information,
particularly hardware error reporting, is disclosed. Locally generated time stamps are
associated with hardware errors or other events. The timestamps form the basis for the global
ordering of event information. The timestamps are normalized, either through a pre-
synchronization process with a common time, or through the use of offsets maintained either
locally near system chips or by the system processor. Once normalized, the timestamps can
10 be compared to determine a first occurring event among multiple reported events.